

Applicants: Augustijn et al.
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REMARKS

Claims 1-3, 5, 7-17, 22-34, 36, 38-49, 51 and 53-63 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yamada, U.S. Patent No. 5,455,820 in view of Krausman et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,306,088 B1. Applicant respectfully traverses these rejections. Claims 4, 5, 18-21, 35, 37, 50, 52 and 64-67 were objected to.

In the interest of advancing prosecution, Applicant has rewritten certain claims that were objected to in independent form. Thus, the claims in their amended form have been indicated allowable by the Examiner and notice of the same is respectfully requested. The present amendment solely provides original claims rewritten in independent form; thus, the scope of the claims have not been narrowed and Applicant explicitly states that the subject matter has not been surrendered explicitly or implicitly. Further, Applicant reserves the right to represent the cancelled claims in a subsequently filed continuing application.

Applicant respectfully requests a Notice of Allowance. Further, the Examiner is urged to telephone the undersigned if any issues remain outstanding.

Respectfully submitted,

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